

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ADP-00 SS-15 NSC-10 DODE-00 CIAE-00

PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

USIA-15 TRSE-00 MBFR-03 SAJ-01 CU-04 NIC-01 ACDA-19

SCA-01 IO-13 RSR-01 /160 W

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FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1205

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, CSCE, GE, GW, MX, US

SUBJ: GDR COUNTERATTACK ON BORDER ISSUE

REF: BERLIN 1207

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: JULY 18 "NEUES DEUTSCHLAND" (ND)
FRONT-PAGED--ALONG WITH ANNOUNCEMENT OF GDR PARTY-
GOVERNMENT APPROVAL OF FOREIGN MINISTER WINZER'S REPORT
ON CSCE I--ARTICLES CONCERNING U.S. CONTROLS ALONG
US-MEXICAN BORDER, ALLEGED NATO PLANS FOR ATOMIC MINES
AT FRG-GDR BORDER, AND VIOLATION OF GDR BORDER BY FRG
PRIVATE AIRCRAFT. THERE WAS ALSO SHORT INSIDE-PAGE ADN
ITEM CONCERNING PENETRATION OF CZECHOSLOVAK BORDER BY
TWO ARMED FRG BOFDER PATROLMEN. ND PRESS PLAY UN-
DOUBTEDLY REFLECTS SENSITIVITY TO ADVERSE WESTERN RE-
ACTION TO ITS BODER CONTROL (HIGHLIGHTED BY RECENT
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TRAVEL RESTRICTION ATTEMPTS AND LATEST WALL-SHOOTING

INDICENT) AND MAY ALSO REFLECT DEFENSIVE ATTITUDE
TOWARD WESTERN EMPHASIS ON FREE MOVEMENT AT CSCE.
END SUMMARY.

2. ACCORDING TO DISTORTED ND REPORT OF ARTICLE WHICH
ORIGINALLY APPEARED IN NEW YORK TIMES, "ELECTRONIC
BARRIER" ERECTED AT U.S. BORDER "TO" MEXICO, HAS PER-
MITTED CAPTURE OF 30,000 PERSONS WHO WERE ATTEMPTING
TO CROSS BORDER ILLEGALLY. ND CITED "US-AMERICAN
MILITARY POLICEMEN" AS SAYING THAT DEVICE INSTALLED
ALONG "THIS 3200 KILOMETER BORDER SECTION" IS SO SENSI-
TIVE THAT IT SHOWS EVERYTHING WHICH DISTURBS IT. (INSIDE-
PAGE ELABORATION DOES ADMIT, HOWEVER, THAT "GEOPHONE"
DEVICE IS AS YET IN PLACE ALONG ONLY 104 KMS OF BORDER
NEAR CHULA VISTA, CALIFORNIA.) STORY ALSO QUOTES "OFFICER OF U.S.
BORDER TROOPS" AS SAYING THAT 20-30 PERCENT OF ILLEGAL
CROSSERS ARE CAUGHT WITH HELP OF DEVICE.

3. ABOVE ND ARTICLE NOT ONLY FAILS TO MENTION NATIONALITY
OF ILLEGAL BORDER CROSSERS, BUT IS FURTHER WRITTEN IN
FASHION TO CONVEY IMPRESSION TO READERS THAT BARRIER
DIRECTED AGAINST CROSSERS TO, NOT FROM, MEXICO.
REFERENCES TO U.S. BORDER PATROL AS "BORDER TROOPS" AND
TO MILITARY POLICE LIKEWISE APPEARS INTENDED TO CONVEY
SIMILARITY TO EAST GERMAN PARAMILITARY UNITS ALONG GDR
BORDERS.

4. MENTION OF ELECTRONIC BARRIER ALONG US-MEXICAN BORDER
AS WELL AS ALLEGED PLANS FOR ATOMIC MINES AT FRG-GDR
BORDER WAS PRESUMABLY MEANT TO SHOW THAT OTHER COUNTRIES
EMPLOY MEANS AT THEIR BORDERS NO LESS SEVERE THAN GDR.
ND ATTEMPTED TO MAKE ITS POINT RE ATOMIC WEAPONS STRONGER
BY REFERRING TO REPORTED BUNDESWEHR PLANNER TRETTNER
AS NAZI WAR CRIMINAL. ADELBERT WEINSTEIN, IDENTIFIED
AS FORMER NAZI GENERAL STAFF MEMBER AND MILITARY COM-
MENTATOR, IS SAID BY ND TO HAVE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT
FRG WOULD THEREBY ENTER ATOMIC AGE. COMPLEMENTARY
ND STORES ON AIRCRAFT VIOLATION (SEPTEL AND CZECHOSLOVAK
BORDER INCIDENT FURTHER IMPLY, IN THEIR TURN, PREMEDITATED
FRG ACTIONS AGAINST EASTERN BORDERS.
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4. COMMENT, ABOVE STORIES EVIDENTLY REPRESENT IMMEDIATE GDR
EFFORT TO EXCUSE NATURE OF ITS BORDER AS MOST RECENTLY
DEMONSTRATED IN SHOOTING AT WALL OPPOSITE BERLIN'S MAERKISCHES
VIERTEL AND BY GDR ATTEMPTS TO RESTRICT FRG AND WEST BERLINER TRAVEL
(REFTEL). IN LONGER TERM, HOWEVER, STORIES MAY BE MORE
SIGNIFICANT AS CLUE TO DEVELOPMENT OF GDR COUNTER ARGUMENTS TO
ATTACKS WHICH IT MAY EXPECT WEST WILL MAKE IN CSCE II

RE RESTRICTIONS ON FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT.BORG

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